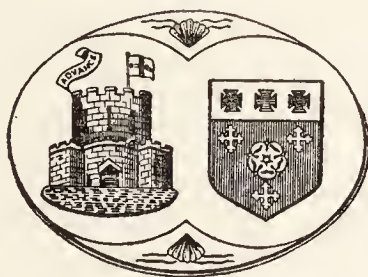


Return

SANDOWN-SHANKLIN

(ISLE OF WIGHT)

URBAN DISTRICT



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Public Health
Inspector

1957

Sandown-Shanklin Urban District Council

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE, 1957-58**

Chairman: H. Robinson, Esq.

Chairman of the Council: N. F. Baker, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council: E. S. Weston, Esq.

Vice-Chairman of the Committee: D. H. Price, Esq.

G. E. Boynton, Esq.

E. G. A. Carpenter, Esq.

J. P. Darch, Esq.

W. G. Gray, Esq.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

P. MAXWELL BROWNE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.).

35% Borough of Ryde, Sandown-Shanklin and Ventnor
U.D.C.'s (Combined population 39,450).

65% Assistant County Medical Officer and Assistant
School Medical Officer.

Medical Officer for Isle of Wight Hospital Group Venereal
Services, including H.M. Prisons.

Senior Public Health Inspector,

Shops Inspector,

Petroleum Inspector,

NEVILLE L. G. TUBB, D.P.A. (Lond.), M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H.
(1, 2, 3 (Hons.) and 4).

1. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
2. Meat and Food Inspection Certificate of the Royal
Sanitary Institute.
3. Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and
Hygiene.
4. Sanitary Science Certificate of the Royal Sanitary
Institute.

Clerk: Miss S. Hoskins

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1957

To the Chairman and Councillors,

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the year 1957 in accordance with the direction of the Minister of Health.

Vital Statistics

The Registrar General's estimate of the population remained much the same at 12,580. The number of live legitimate births rose slightly from 122 to 125, producing a slight increase in the live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population from 10.2 to 10.3. That for England and Wales rose from 15.7 to 16.1. The number of live illegitimate births fell from 7 to 3. The still birth rate per 1000 live and still births fell from 30.1 to 15.4, but in actual fact the reduction of this rate was merely due to the fact that only two legitimate still births occurred compared with four in the previous year.

The number of deaths rose from 163 to 183 giving a crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population of 14.5 compared with 13.0 for the previous year. The comparative death rate 10.3 was a slight increase on 9.2 for the previous year.

Whereas there was an increase in the number of deaths in men from 81 to 85, and in women from 82 to 98, the crude death rate for England and Wales showed little change at 11.5 per 1,000 population and there was a small decrease in the death rate of both males and females, after allowing for changes in the age structure of the population. Once again no deaths occurred from puerperal causes and the number of deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age remained at 2, whilst that for illegitimate infants of the same age remained at nil. The death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births rose very slightly from 15.5 to 15.6.

Causes of Death

Non-respiratory tuberculosis resulted in one death and for individual causes tuberculosis continues to diminish in importance as a cause of death. Mortality was only 19% of that in 1938 in England and Wales. One death occurred from syphilitic disease and this again is a dying disease. New methods of treatment will virtually eradicate it from future generations.

It is pleasing to note that no deaths occurred from whooping cough, meningitis or acute poliomyelitis. On the whole in England and Wales infectious diseases have caused fewer deaths in 1956 than in any previous year. No deaths from diphtheria occurred and indeed there were only 8 deaths in England and Wales and 5 of them occurred after an interval of more than one year from the onset of the disease.

Among the malignant neoplasms, cancer of the lung continued to increase as a cause of death, but the number of deaths assigned to cancer of the stomach continued the slight fall which has taken place in every year since 1950 in England and Wales. The number of deaths fell from 3 to 1 in the male but remained stationary in the female at 1. The number of vascular lesions of the nervous system increased markedly in the male from 6 to 17 but in England and Wales there was no increase. That in the female fell markedly from 20 to 9 but over the country there was a further small increase.

Coronary disease and hypertension with heart disease accounted for 21 and 2 deaths respectively in the male, and 14 and 7 in the female. The coronary disease therefore showing an increase in both males and females. Arteriosclerotic (or coronary heart disease) continued to increase as a cause of death in England and Wales, over 4,000 more deaths being recorded in 1956 than in 1955.

There was a reduction of deaths from pneumonia from 6 to 1 in men and from 3 to 1 in women and from bronchitis, from 4 to 1 in males. Over the rest of the country the death rates for pneumonia and bronchitis both rose appreciably in 1956. It is pleasing to note that none of the mothers giving birth to the 128 babies died as a result last year. Over the whole country in 1956 the number of deaths certified as due to pregnancy and childbearing was 399; this meant that only 56 women died for every hundred thousand live and still births. This was not a large number but one which the Ministry of Health felt could be reduced with adequate care and attention as shown by their report in 1957.

Prevalence and Control in Infectious Diseases

One case of typhoid fever was notified and subsequent investigation showed that he was in fact, a carrier, suffering mildly from the disease which had been contracted in India. After close surveillance and treatment he became clear of infection and was able to complete his period of leave in this country without causing further anxiety to himself and others.

Two cases of scabies occurred in 1957 and these were referred to Fairlee Isolation Hospital for treatment whilst the home was disinfested and cleansed.

There was an increase of measles from 101 to 227, one of which was admitted to hospital. The incidence of this disease fell most heavily on those in the 5 to 10 age group and rather less so on those between 3 and 5. It has been found that when the percentage of immune children is below 45 in the age group 5 to 8, there is often a chance that infection may become widespread. There were only 4 cases of whooping cough compared with 11 in the previous year.

Food poisoning cases increased from nil to 13 as a result of one outbreak and subsidiary one close by. Although there were no obvious connections, many features were similar, but the source of infection could not be proved beyond doubt in any of the cases.

Tuberculosis. The number of cases of respiratory tuberculosis rose from 1 to 9 and six of these were admitted to hospital; no cases of other varieties of tuberculosis occurred. The total of 15 included 6 transfers from the mainland. The greatest incidence occurred in females between 25 and 35. However, these figures compare very favourably with those of 10 years ago when 15 new cases were recorded and 9 deaths occurred. With modern methods of treatment there is no reason why tuberculosis should not fall practically to zero as it has done in the case of diphtheria. That preventive measures must still be vigorously applied is shown by the sharp rise of figures in this district from last year. It is important that the tuberculosis regulations, for example, should be closely adhered to, so that all new cases of tuberculosis are notified within 48 hours to the Medical Officer of Health. Also, that infectious persons who are fortunate enough now to be able to receive treatment at home, do not abuse this privilege by exposing others to the risk of infection by engaging in seaside occupations, such as those involving food handling or letting. A strict enforcement of the Public Health Act is indicated in certain cases where warnings have been flagrantly disregarded.

There has been too great a tendency in the past to "sit back on our laurels", and regard the general decline of tuberculosis as inevitable without any further action on our part. That this disease is far from conquered was shown clearly in a report based on the statistics in England and Wales between 1938 and 1955. 375,000 persons had the disease in the lung and a further 36,000 had the non-respiratory forms. Of the former probably 45,000 had positive sputums and were

therefore infectious. An estimate was made that 75,000 unsuspected cases of tuberculosis formed an unknown pool fed by new cases at the rate of 50,000 per year. Improved case finding has resulted in earlier notification and the figures of the survey carried out by the Portsmouth Mass Radiography unit, between October and December are evidence of this. Fifteen hundred and thirty-seven miniature films were taken and one active unsuspected case of pulmonary tuberculosis was found in both Sandown and Shanklin. The Ministry of Health in 1956 reported that the Mass Miniature Radiography Scheme had resulted in the finding of 2.2 cases per thousand in 1954.

The campaign to eradicate tuberculosis from cattle in Gt. Britain had reached an advanced stage in March, 1957. Thus by 25th November, 1957 the Island was declared a specified area so that all raw milk had to be sold either as tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilized. Tuberculosis in pigs and poultry still remains a problem which should be tackled soon.

Vaccination of children in secondary schools with B.C.G. continued in 1957. The testing revealed that 58.6% were negative to the Heaf test and therefore considered susceptible and eligible for vaccination.

Influenza. In May, 1957, it became generally known that there had been local outbreaks of influenza in the Far East. Material from cases in Singapore was sent to the World Health Influenza Centre in London, where a special strain was isolated. By June 1957 this "Asian" strain virus had been isolated in England and there were outbreaks of the disease all over the world. In August an epidemic wave of the disease was affecting the northern part of the country and this soon spread south; the peak prevalence appeared to have been reached in this area during the early part of October. By the end of October the indices of prevalence showed a marked decline and the epidemic spread appeared to be over. A specific vaccine was prepared as a matter of urgency by the Government but little of it was available before the epidemic had reached its peak and at an early state the Government decided against using it for general vaccination.

Lung Cancer. The Medical Research Council in 1957 concluded that the great increase which had occurred in the death-rate during the last 25 years from lung cancer in Gt. Britain and other countries was associated with tobacco smoking, partly in the form of cigarettes. This opinion was accepted by the Ministers of Health and Education as a basis

for preventive action so that Local Health Authorities were informed subsequently that the risks of tobacco smoking should be brought effectively to the notice of the public in order that the person who smokes knows the risks.

I should like to thank Mr. Tubb for the way he has always managed somehow to carry out the numerous investigations I have requested, especially during outbreaks of infectious disease, despite his other numerous and pressing duties; also my appreciation and thanks to the Chairman and members of the Sandown and Shanklin Public Health Committee for their understanding and support.

I have the honour, to be, Gentlemen,

P. MAXWELL BROWNE,

Medical Officer of Health

Statistics

(1) GENERAL

Area of Urban District (in acres)	...	...	3,509
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957)					
according to rate book	...	...	5,078
Rateable Value	...	...	£267,272
Sum represented by 1d. rate	...	...	£1,060
		<i>Sandown</i>	<i>Shanklin</i>		
Total Hours of Sunshine during 1957		1881.3	1929.7		
	<i>Sandown</i>	<i>Shanklin</i>			
Jan.	64.4	69.9	July	229.9	240.3
Feb.	81.8	85.0	Aug.	195.9	212.7
Mar.	119.4	116.7	Sept.	136.2	139.2
Apr.	181.0	184.5	Oct.	122.6	118.0
May	260.4	270.0	Nov.	73.1	72.9
June	338.2	344.0	Dec.	78.4	76.5

(2) VITAL

Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	...	12,580			
BIRTHS	M.	F.			
No. of live legitimate births	59	66	125		
No. of live illegitimate births	2	1	...	3	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population				10.2	
Comparative factor (births)	...	...	...	1.19	
Comparative Birth Rate	...	...	...	12.1	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 England and Wales				16.1	
No. of legitimate stillbirths	1	1	...	2	
No. of illegitimate stillbirths	—	—	...	—	
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...			15.4	
DEATHS	M.	F.			
Total No. of deaths	...	85	98	...	183
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			...	...	14.5
Comparative factor (deaths)	...	...	...		0.71
Comparative Death Rate	...	...	...		10.3
Death Rate England and Wales		...	...		11.5
Deaths from puerperal causes	...	...	...		Nil
Rate per 1,000 (live and stillbirths)		...	...		Nil
No. of deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age	M.	F.	...		2
No. of deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year of age	—	—	...		Nil
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births	...				15.6
Death Rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...		16.0
Death Rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...		Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...		Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...				Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...		34

Causes of Death

CAUSE					MALE		FEMALE	
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	(—)	—	(—)				
Tuberculosis, other	1	(—)	—	(—)				
Syphilitic disease	1	(—)	—	(—)				
Diphtheria	—	(—)	—	(—)				
Whooping Cough	—	(—)	—	(—)				
Meningococcal infections	—	(—)	—	(—)				
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	(—)	—	(—)				
Measles	—	(—)	—	(—)				
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	(—)	1	(—)				
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	(3)	1	(1)				
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	(6)	1	(1)				
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	(—)	3	(2)				
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	(—)	2	(2)				
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	(7)	9	(3)				
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	(—)	1	(1)				
Diabetes	1	(2)	1	(1)				
Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	(6)	9	(20)				
Coronary disease, angina	21	(18)	14	(6)				
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	(2)	7	(9)				
Other heart disease	10	(14)	22	(14)				
Other circulatory disease	4	(3)	3	(2)				
Influenza	—	(—)	2	(1)				
Pneumonia	1	(6)	1	(3)				
Bronchitis	1	(4)	3	(—)				
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	(—)	—	(—)				
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	(2)	2	(1)				
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	(—)	1	(1)				
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	(1)	1	(—)				
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	(2)	—	(—)				
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	(—)	—	(—)				
Congenital malformations	1	(—)	1	(—)				
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	(4)	11	(13)				
Motor vehicle accidents	—	(—)	—	(—)				
All other accidents	1	(—)	2	(1)				
Suicide	—	(1)	—	(—)				
Homicide and operations of war	—	(—)	—	(—)				
ALL CAUSES	85	(81)	98	(82)				

N.B.—Figures for 1956 are entered in brackets.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases

Disease.			Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	227	1	—
Ophthalmia					
Neonatorum	...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection			—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	4	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)			—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Non- Paralytic)	...	...	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	13	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (Post- infectious)	...	...	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)			9	6	—
Tuberculosis (Meninges & C.N.S.)			—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Other)	...	...	—	—	—
Total			253	7	—

Age at Date of Notification

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Whooping Cough	Poliomylitis (Paralytic)	Poliomylitis (Non-Paralytic)	Food Poisoning	Paratyphoid Fever	Acute Encephalitis (Post Infectious)	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	Tuberculosis (Meninges & C.N.S.)	Tuberculosis (Other)	Dysentery
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	155	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	227	—	—	4	—	—	13	—	—	9	—	—	—

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

(a)	Total number of outbreaks	...	...	...	2
(b)	Number of cases	...	...	...	13
(c)	Number of deaths	...	...	...	None

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases (Schools return)

Chicken pox	...	...	...	...	16
Mumps	...	...	...	...	4
German Meazles	...	...	...	...	4
Influenza and Influenzal Colds	...	...	...	...	904
					<hr/> 928 <hr/>

Diphtheria Immunisation

Number of children in the District on 31st December, 1957 who have completed a primary course of diphtheria immunisation at any time between 1st January, 1943 and 31st December, 1957.

<i>Age in 31.12.57 (i.e. born in year)</i>	<i>under 1 1957</i>	<i>1-4 1953-56</i>	<i>5-9 1948-52</i>	<i>10-14 1943-47</i>	<i>under 15 Total</i>
<i>Number of children who have completed primary course in the period 1943-1957</i>	47	505	767	966	2285

Smallpox Vaccination

Number of children in the District on 31st December, 1957 who were vaccinated against Smallpox during 1957.

<i>under 1 (Born 1957)</i>	<i>1-4 (Born 1953-56)</i>	<i>5-9 (Born 1948-52)</i>	<i>10-14 (Born 1943-47)</i>	<i>Total</i>
45	46	5	4	100

Tuberculosis

AGE PERIODS				New Cases				Totals	Deaths				Totals
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
				M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
0 and under	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 „ „	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 „ „	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 „ „	20	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 „ „	25	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 „ „	35	—	5	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 „ „	45	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 „ „	55	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 „ „	65	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 „ „	75	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
75 and over		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	6	9	—	—	15*	1†	—	1	—	—	2	—

*This total includes 6 transfers from the mainland.

†This patient died from other cause.

Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Acts, 1944

Number of samples taken during 1957	...	16
Number of samples found to be T.B. positive		Nil
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	... ..	Nil

TOWN HALL,

SHANKLIN, I.W.

To the Chairman and Councillors

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my fifth annual report on the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District and the work carried out during 1957.

Once again this report is set out as a separate section by courtesy of Dr. P. Maxwell Browne, Medical Officer of Health.

The past year, now under review, saw the implementation of the Rent Act 1957, the Housing Act 1957 and the designation of the Isle of Wight as a Specified Area in relation to milk supply. Detailed comment on these measures is to be found in the appropriate sections of the report.

It is to be regretted that despite the Council's support in advertising the vacant position of Additional Public Health Inspector, the national shortage of qualified officers resulted in no appointment being made.

The constant advent of new legislation and increased duties, makes it more and more difficult to provide the public, particularly during the seasonal months, with the services essential in a popular resort.

This is reflected in the amount of time spent and results achieved in the less urgent sections of the departmental work.

It should always be borne in mind that public health and more particularly environmental hygiene is a preventive and protective service, and a measure of its success lies in efficient working without undue publicity.

Once again I would record my sincere appreciation of the loyal and conscientious work of my clerk Miss S. Hoskins.

I also wish to record my appreciation of the support given me by the Public Health Committee and the Council, and of the co-operation given by my colleagues in other departments.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

N. L. G. TUBB,

Senior Public Health Inspector

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

The Isle of Wight Water Board is an *ad hoc* authority responsible for the main water supply for the Urban District.

The supply is in three main sections. Certain sections are linked and interchangeable to some extent and are changed according to supply and demand. The necessity for such interchange arises mainly when the supply from some of the smaller sources is inadequate to meet the heavy increased seasonal demand.

During the year further extensions, alterations and improvements to the service were carried out.

SANDOWN

The main sources of supply for this area are the River Yar and Dyers' Springs at Newchurch. The new intake from the river was put into operation in the early summer and this has considerably increased the supply and will eventually give an increase on the old intake of approximately half a million gallons per day. This full increase cannot be used until correspondingly increased facilities are available for treatment, e.g. filtration, etc.

This combined supply provides for Sandown and Lake and at times supplies part of Shanklin and other areas outside the Urban District.

Out of season consumption from this one station approximates to between a half and three quarters of a million gallons per day, whereas peak seasonal demand often exceeds one and a half million gallons a day.

SHANKLIN

The catchment areas of Cowlease, Greatwoods and Wroxall with a supplemented supply from the Chillerton Wells, supply this area.

During the year the new well at Chillerton and complete electrification of the plant at the Chillerton works was completed.

LUCCOMBE VILLAGE

Water for this area comes from St. Boniface Down. It is treated and then pumped by hydraulic ram to reservoirs above the village and from there gravitates to the village mains.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

In the district there are four private supplies being used for domestic purposes, where no supply provided by the Isle of Wight Water Board is available.

Isolated farms, farm cottages and five private residences derive their supplies from these four sources.

In all but one case domestic purification and filtration plants have been installed.

In addition to the above there are four further supplies used for purposes in connection with farms but not for dairy or domestic purposes.

GENERAL

During the year 172 samples of water were taken. The table below shows the type of source from which the samples were taken and classifies the results in accordance with the standards laid down by the Ministry of Health.

1957 Water Supplies

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Untreated Sources</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Private Sources</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Highly satisfactory	8	70	13	91
Satisfactory ...	7	12	—	19
Suspicious ...	6	10	2	18
Unsatisfactory ...	26	14	4	44
Totals ...	47	106	19	172

Plus—3 Samples from Swimming Pool (all Highly Satisfactory).

1 Sample from seepage water (Unsatisfactory).

By the taking of these samples the Isle of Wight Water Board is enabled to keep a close check upon the state of raw supplies prior to treatment and supplies after treatment.

There is one swimming pool in the district which is open to the public and during the season three samples were taken, all of which were highly satisfactory. In addition to sampling, residual chlorine tests were made at frequent intervals and showed the chlorine content to be both adequate and reasonable.

One sample was taken of seepage water to ascertain its nature.

Samples from the public supply were periodically taken and submitted for chemical analysis. Extracts from the Analyst's reports are given below:—

SANDOWN

“These results indicate a water of high organic purity. Apart from an insignificant trace of iron this sample is free from metallic contamination.

As a result of my examination I am of the opinion that, from a chemical aspect, this water is satisfactory in all respects and that it is quite suitable for drinking and domestic purposes”.

SHANKLIN

“These results indicate a water of high organic purity, free from recent sewage pollution.

The water is hard and alkaline in reaction. This sample contains a trace of zinc in solution but is otherwise free from metallic contamination.

The taste of this water was satisfactory and no phenols could be detected.

In my opinion, this sample is chemically satisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes”.

LUCCOMBE

“These results indicate a water of high organic purity. Apart from an insignificant trace of iron this sample is free from metallic contamination.

As a result of my examination I am of the opinion that from the chemical aspect, this water is satisfactory in all respects and that it is quite suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

Sewers and Drainage

At the present time the district is sewered to two main outfalls to the sea. One at Shanklin serves that area and one at Sandown serves Lake and Sandown.

The new sewerage scheme preliminaries having been completed, it is intended that work shall commence early in 1958 and will take between two and three years to complete.

Ultimately all sewage will discharge to sea from an extended outfall at Sandown. The existing Shanklin outfall being used only as a storm water outfall for loads in excess of three times the dry weather flow.

An entirely new outfall works are to be built at Sandown on land adjoining the refuse tip and these will be of a design and capacity to produce a much improved effluent.

During the year 415 visits have been made for the supervision and testing of drainage work. This excludes drainage of new buildings for which the Surveyor is responsible.

There has been a considerable increase of work during 1957 in connection with the repair and improvement of public sewers to which section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936 applies.

Public Cleansing

The controlled tipping of all refuse collected in the district continued and is used in the reclamation of marsh land.

A weekly collection is provided with augmented services for certain sections of the district during the summer months.

During the year an additional refuse collection vehicle was purchased and brought into service. This has enabled the Surveyor who is responsible for this service, to increase the extent of additional collections during the season, and provides a relief vehicle to facilitate maintenance and overhaul in off peak periods.

The quantity of refuse continues to increase although it is lighter in nature. This is due to two main factors, the decrease in the use of solid fuel for boilers resulting in there being less ash for disposal and the increase in paper refuse due to the national trends in packaging of commodities and the increase in the use of non-returnable containers.

During the year revision was made to the timetable of kerbside collections in the town centres to minimise the time during which bins are placed outside business premises.

By doing so, the risk of interference by unauthorised persons was reduced and unsightliness reduced to a minimum period.

During the year only one complaint of a minor nature was received concerning the tip.

Camping Sites

During the current year, renewal of licences to use land as sites for moveable dwellings were reissued in respect of all seven existing sites.

Three sites are situated at Shanklin and four at Sandown. One site at Shanklin caters for tents only, mainly organised camps, the remaining two cater mainly for trailer caravans

but also for some tents at peak periods. At Sandown all four sites accept caravans only.

The total acreage licensed is now approximately 61 acres, an increase of 18 acres, but the number of caravans permitted remains unchanged at approximately 600, the remaining land being licensed for tents only.

None of the sites are residential and are licensed for seasonal occupation between 1st March and 31st October each year.

The standard set and achieved with the ready and willing co-operation of the site proprietors is high. Sanitary blocks with water carriage drainage, domestic washing facilities, showers, baths, etc. are provided. Five sites are drained to the main sewer and one has a modern and efficient private sewage disposal plant installed.

All the caravan sites have camp shops, electricity and main water and one has main gas to each caravan. Other amenities e.g. games rooms, T.V., etc., are provided.

The great majority of caravans are permanently stationed on the sites, although provision is made for the itinerant holidaymaker with his own caravan.

Insect Pest Control

Sixteen premises were disinfested during the year, excluding verminous premises, necessitating 57 visits.

The infestations were:—

Flies	...	...	...	...	3
Cockroaches		...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous		...	...	...	3

In addition to the above, advice was given and insecticides supplied on charge to deal with infestations of ants, earwigs, red mite, silverfish, etc.

As in previous years complaints of wasp nests are passed to a private contractor as the Council do not provide a service for this purpose.

Verminous Premises and Persons

Ten premises were disinfested from vermin during the year, 7 from fleas, 2 from bed-bugs and 1 from scabies.

Four of the flea infested premises were in one block and were cross infested through the common roof space.

In 2 cases verminous bedding was removed and destroyed and in a third case, bedding, mattresses, etc. were removed, steam disinfested and returned.

Rodent Control

Rodent infestations found during the course of inspections for other purposes and specific complaints are referred to the County Rodent Officer for attention.

The County Rodent Officer's staff also deal with miscellaneous pest complaints such as bats, moles, etc.

The service is administered by the Isle of Wight Joint Rodent Destruction Committee which is an *ad hoc* authority upon which all districts are represented.

Jellyfish

In the season, abnormal tide and weather conditions brought a number of "Portuguese Men-o-War" stinging jellyfish to the shores of Southern England.

A small number came into the bay and several were washed ashore.

Immediate precautionary action was taken by the department by public announcement and rush posters warning the public not to touch the jellyfish. The circumstances only applied for three days and were most exceptional. No reports were received of any person being stung.

Shops

The routine inspection of shops under the health and welfare provisions of the Shops Act has, owing to pressure of other work, received little attention during the year, except where shops have been visited for other purposes.

The Council's delegated powers from the Isle of Wight County Council as a Shops Act Authority has necessitated inspections in respect of Closing Hours and Sunday Trading mainly to prevent unfair competition by trading in non-exempted commodities.

Complaints

Two hundred and thirteen complaints were received during the year. Broad classification is:—

Sanitary Defects	...	...	...	50
Drainage and Sanitary				
Arrangements	...	...	...	54
Rodent Infestations	...	...	...	25
Insect Infestations (all)	...	...	...	27
Refuse Collection and Storage	...			10
Offensive Odours, Accumulations				
and Deposits	...	...	...	18
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	4
Smoke, Grit and Fume Emission	...			5
Water Supply	...	...	...	4
Food (Soundness) and Conditions	...			7
Overcrowding	...	...	...	1
Conditions of persons living alone	...			3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	5
				<hr/>
				213
				<hr/>

Talks

In addition to seven talks given on food hygiene, a further nine talks were given to various organisations on such subjects as the Housing Act, 1957, Rent Act, 1957, and other Local Government topics.

Factories Act, 1937

Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1957 for the Urban District of Sandown-Shanklin in the County of the Isle of Wight.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	73	11	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	84	12	3	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	4	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	3	4	—	1	—

Housing.

It was stated in the 1956 Annual Report that the progress of slum clearance is dependant to a large extent upon the ability of the Council to provide alternative accommodation.

During the year four families were re-housed by the Council from slum clearance property, two families found other accommodation and two premises became vacant by the death of the sole occupant.

No actual demolitions were affected in the year under review although three cottages were gutted and then altered and reconstructed to provide a commercial warehouse.

In another instance an undertaking was accepted to convert three cottages into two by alteration, reconstruction and improvement.

Where such undertakings will avoid a complete loss of the housing units concerned and provide a lesser number of satisfactory units, the schemes are to be welcomed and in this respect decontrol under the Rent Act 1957, has given owners an additional incentive.

The number of units of accommodation let by private landlords has diminished still further, but to a less extent for the reason given in the last paragraph.

The Housing Act 1957, although mainly a consolidation Act, has made a number of small but important changes in the law.

Rent Act, 1957

It is widely accepted that the Rent Act 1957, which came into force on the 6th July, 1957, has been a contentious statute, mainly on the grounds of the economic principles involved.

Ignoring this aspect it can be said that no Act has required such a complicated procedure involving the issue of countless forms which many tenants and owners find hard to understand.

On the basis that "proof of the pudding is in the eating", it does not seem that the Act has yet achieved its purpose so far as the carrying out of worthwhile repairs to long neglected property is concerned.

With the present high cost of repair works, landlords have been unable to carry out, other than unavoidable repairs, for years past. In order to obtain an increased rent, the tendency now in most cases is to do the repairs required by the tenant on form "G" as cheaply as possible, and nothing more.

As most tenants are laymen when it comes to writing out a schedule of defects, many important items are not included

and as a Local Authority may not add any item to a tenants form "G" these items do not receive attention.

It is appreciated that if an inspection is made following application for a Certificate of Disrepair, the Local Authority can serve a notice under the Housing Act or Public Health Act for any defects not on form "G", but this tends to complicate the procedure and gives the Landlord the impression that he is being "hard hit".

In this district the proportion of privately owned property, let unfurnished and coming within the Act, is small. There are, however, a considerable number of larger properties where, so far, tenants have been unable to negotiate new tenancies at increased agreed rentals, either because the Landlord wishes to sell or the new suggested rent is beyond the tenant's means.

October, 1958 will show the full extent of this problem, although some indication can be obtained by the numbers of tenants so effected, who are applying for admission to the Council's Housing application list.

Food Hygiene Premises

It is to be regretted that once again, shortage of staff and other works of priority have resulted in less progress being made than was anticipated in this section of the work.

Food shops, cafes, restaurants, kiosks and snack bars are now provided with the necessary equipment in almost every case and the premises themselves comply with requirements. This, however, still does not ensure a satisfactory standard of food hygiene. The "human element" of staff, in many cases seasonal employees, need constant supervision particularly at peak periods to avoid an increase in business tending to result in a lowering of standards.

The same difficulty of food handling applies to hotels and boarding houses. Here the circumstances are somewhat different however and supervision by the proprietors or management tends to be more personal and constant. There still remains a heavy back-log of inspections and work to be done in regard to the latter class of premises, although it is being found that the more enterprising have taken steps to comply and maintain good standards without the need for official persuasion or action.

During the year a prosecution was successfully taken against a firm of bakers for selling a loaf containing a quantity of tobacco.

The bench decided that the case had been rightly and properly brought and made a conditional discharge with costs against the defendants bearing in mind the fact that this was the firm's first offence and the adverse publicity which would result would also have a punitive effect.

National and International publicity through articles, publications, radio, television and advertising, together with discussions by a wide variety of organisations tends to make the public more hygiene conscious.

Desirable as this may be, in the spread of knowledge and in its effect on traders improving standards to satisfy the customers, it is to be hoped that better education and practices in food hygiene in the home will improve at the same time. Experience shows that there are anomalies in this respect.

Seven talks on food hygiene were given during the year, 4 to Women's organisations, one to an employers' association and 2 to groups of employees.

The business of premises is set out in the following classification of Food Premises.

There are many instances where overlapping occurs particularly in the case of "general" food shops.

Classification of Food Premises

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	7
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	154
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	6
Butchers	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	14
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	20
Grocers	...	...	...	...	39
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	87
Kiosks and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	36
Licensed Premises (full licences)	...	...	...	...	34
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	12
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	5

Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

The premises registered under the above Act and Section are:—

(a) Registered for the Manufacture of Sausages and for Preserved Foods	...	...	...	...	20
(b) Registered for the Manufacture, Storage/Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	154
Total					174

During the year 121 visits were made to the above registered premises.

The two additional registrations under (a) were both for the manufacture of meat pies.

One in respect of new premises and one in respect of an existing bakery adding meat pies to the types of commodity produced.

Foodstuffs Condemned

The amounts of various foods which were condemned and voluntarily surrendered during the year are given below:—

	lbs.
Meat—Imported	511
Offal—Imported	12
Tinned Meat (except ham)	676 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tinned Ham	456
Tinned Fruit, Vegetables, Soups, etc. ...	2,357 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned Milk	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned Fish	50 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cheese	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Preserves	43 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fats	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
Salad Cream	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cakes	12
Poultry—Imported	84
Fish—Fresh	42
Fish—Shell	26 $\frac{1}{2}$
Potatoes	1,680
	<hr/>
	6,051 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<hr/>
Eggs	72

In addition to the above a total of 4,877lbs. of meat pies and sausages voluntarily withdrawn from sale by the manufacturers were collected and arrangements made for disposal.

One hundred and nine special visits were made for food examination of which seventy-six were between May-September inclusive.

Milk Supply

The year under review was significant in that with effect from 25th November, 1957 the whole of the Urban District became, with the remainder of the Island, a Specified Area under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order 1957.

This provided that all dairymen who retail milk in any part of the area must sell the milk under a special designation, i.e. either "Pasteurised", "Sterilised" or "Tuberculin Tested".

The sale of ungraded milk is no longer permissible and a greater measure of protection should therefore be provided for the general public.

In the district 5 dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949. In addition 9 premises sell milk in bottles as received, 6 of these being caravan site shops.

Although most of the milk sold in the district is pasteurised, there are no pasteurisation plants in the district.

T.T. milk is bottled at one premises in the area and some dairy farms supply a small number of consumers direct.

During the year, 91 samples were taken, a decrease on the previous year. There were no failures of the phosphatase test but 5 samples of T.T. milk failed the methylene blue test.

The results of samples taken including milk as supplied to schools are:—

Designation of Milk	No. Taken	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test		Sat.	Unsat.
		P.	F.	P.	F.		
Pasteurised ...	27	27	—	27	—	27	—
Pasteurised T.T.	10	10	—	10	—	10	—
Sterilised... ..	11	11	—	11	—	11	—
Raw (ungraded)	9	—	—	9	—	9	5
T.T. ...	34	—	—	29	5	29	5
Totals ...	91	48	—	86	5	86	5

Ice Cream

Four producers are registered for the manufacture of ice cream of which only three actually produce. Two of these produce for retail sale and consumption only from their own premises. The remaining one produces for general wholesale distribution throughout the district.

During the year 2 new registrations were granted and 1 cancelled making a total of 154 of which 126 can be regarded as being "Active".

Four sources provide the supply of ice cream available in the district, not including the two producers who produce solely for their own retail supply.

The present arrangement of sampling on the Island to avoid unnecessary duplication continued to work satisfactorily and to give adequate coverage.

The results of samples taken are tabulated below.

During the year, 12 samples were taken and the results classified:—

Grade I	...	...	...	...	3
Grade II	...	...	...	...	5
Grade III	...	...	...	...	4
Grade IV	...	...	...	...	—
					—
					12
					=

In addition to the above one ice lolly was sampled, the result was highly satisfactory.

Bakehouses

Of the seven bakehouses operating in the district none are underground.

One bakehouse which was, by reason of its age, construction and restricted area, considered unsatisfactory, has been rebuilt, enlarged and now provides a modern and well equipped premises.

Four of the bakehouses now produce meat pies in addition to bread, rolls and cakes. As the district is also supplied by three specialist producers of meat pies one can only assume that the public demand for meat pies has increased.

Licensed Premises

Once again attention to other sections of department work has precluded detailed inspections of all licensed premises.

No complaints concerning hygiene of such premises were received and those premises visited showed a generally satisfactory standard to have been maintained.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

(a) General Sanitation						Visits
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	194
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	415
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	...	30
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	12
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	16
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	3
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	3
Piggeries and Small Holdings	...	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	12
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	20
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	8
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	4
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	7
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	32
Insect Pest Control—Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	43
Insect Pest Control—Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	...	14
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	81
Interviews with owners, builders, etc. on site	...	...	...	...	...	62
(b) Housing						
Premises inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	78
Premises re-inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	109
Premises inspected under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	6
Premises re-inspected under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	46
Filthy or verminous premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	27
Filthy or verminous premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	18
Council Properties	...	...	...	...	...	21
Housing Application enquiry visits	...	...	...	...	...	238
Rent Act Visits	...	...	...	...	...	39
(c) Infectious Disease						
Inquiries in cases of infectious disease and food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	139
(d) Meat and Food Inspection						
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	187
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	35
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	10

Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	14
Grocers	...	...	...	70
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	20
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	4
Milk Sampling Visits	...	...	...	93
Ice Cream Sampling Visits	...	...	...	13
Miscellaneous Food Visits (including disposal of condemned food)	...	...	...	287
Laboratory Visits	...	...	...	89

(e) **Additional**

Petroleum Visits	...	...	...	72
Heating Appliance (Regulations 1953)	...	...	...	3
Shops Act (Closing Hours)	...	...	...	84
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	2,662

Notices

Act	Informal		Formal	
	Served	Complied	Served	Complied
Public Health Acts ...	104	84	1	1
Food and Drugs and Regulations ...	45	63	—	—
Factories Act ...	3	4	—	—
Housing Acts ...	1	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	153	152	1	1

Food and Drugs Samples taken during 1957 in the Sandown-Shanklin Urban District

<i>Article Sampled</i>	<i>Number obtained</i>	<i>Adulterated or Otherwise Irregular</i>
Butter	1	
Beef Sausage Meat ...	1	1 (Preservatives present but not declared)
Creamed Rice ...	1	
Cream Line Toffees ...	1	1 (Label Unsatisfactory)
Condensed Milk ...	1	
Garden Peas—Canned	1	
Glycerine and Blackcurrant sweets	1	1 (Label Unsatisfactory)
Ice Cream	8	
Lard	1	
Marmalade	2	1 (Deficient in Soluble Solids)
Pork Sausages	1	1 (Preservatives present but not declared)
Puff Pastry	1	
Shortbread Biscuits ...	1	1 (Misleading Label)
Milk	3	
Totals ...	24	6

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the Isle of Wight County Council (which is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Urban District) who has kindly supplied the above particulars of samples taken in the Urban District during 1957.

The figures do not give a true picture of the sample coverage, as many pre-packed commodities as sold in the Sandown-Shanklin Urban District are sampled in other parts of the Island.

